

TIMBER TALK

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Calgary, Alta.,

T2H 2G8

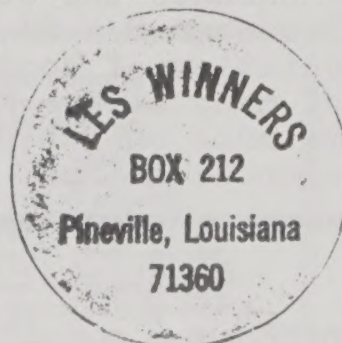
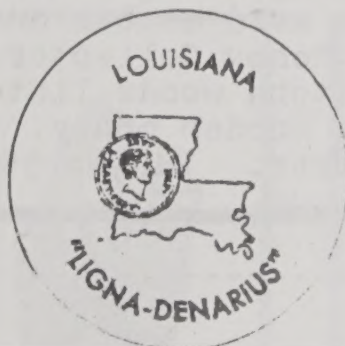
A "LIGNA-DENARIUS" FOR LIGNADENARISTS

by Leslie A. Winners

Although the name Brutus has, with the aid of a playwright named Shakespeare, become synonymous with treachery and base ingratitude, there is every reason to believe that this most famous of Julius Caesar's assassins acted only from the highest patriotic motives; believing that he was helping to save the Roman state from a tyrant who had managed to grasp it entirely in his clutches.

Marcus Junius Brutus (also known as Quintus Caepio Brutus) was born in 85 B.C. and was a descendant of that Lucius Junius Brutus who had expelled the Tarquin kings from Rome and set up the Republic in 509 B.C. As a young moneyer for the state in 60 - 59 B. C., Brutus had issued coins recalling his famous ancestor. In the Civil War between Caesar and Pompey he supported Pompey. After Pompey's defeat at the Battle of Pharsalus, Caesar pardoned Brutus and gave him an office to fulfill. Brutus, however - once fully convinced that Caesar was a menace to the Roman Republican constitution - threw himself vigorously into the conspiracy to murder him.

After the assassination, Brutus withdrew from Rome to Macedonia, where he joined his forces with those of Cassius. They were defeated by the combined forces of Mark Antony and Caesar's grand-nephew and posthumously adopted son, Octavian. Octavian was eventually to become Augustus, the first of the Roman emperors. The defeat of Brutus on the battlefield of Philippi in 42 B.C. is recalled by the moralist-historian Plutarch. Plutarch states that, on the evening of the battle, Brutus said to his co-conspirator Cassius, "On the Ides of March I devoted my life to my country, and since then I have lived in liberty and glory." Brutus took his own life after his defeat on the battlefield.



Membership dues in the Canadian Association of Wooden Money Collectors is \$5.00 per calendar year and should be sent to our Secretary-Treasurer, Bruce Watt, 1153 Northridge Street, Oshawa, Ontario, L1G 3P3.

The coin depicted on this wood is by far the most interesting of all the coins issued by Brutus. It is a silver denarius issued after the assassination of Caesar. On the obverse, seen on the wood, is a portrait of Brutus, surrounded by the legend in abbreviated Latin: "BRVT. IMP. L. PLAET. CEST." (Brutus, Commander of the Armies, Lucius Plaetorius Cestianus). Cestianus was the official in Brutus' camp who caused the issue to be struck. The coin's reverse depicts the traditional cap of liberty worn by freed slaves, but with a dagger on either side and the inscription "EID. MAR." below (Ides of March). The reverse unquestionably refers to the date of Caesar's murder and the restoration of public liberty by the use of daggers.

The denarius is superimposed on an outline map of the State of Louisiana, a state rich in heritage and tradition; a state well known for oil and gas production but also known for her abundant green forests. The ACADIANA region of south Louisiana consists of twenty-two parishes unique primarily because of the French Acadian culture, language and tradition. Acadiana, home for many of the Canadian refugees of the "Great Deportation", thrives today with industry and commerce; and proudly boasts of her heritage.

References:

Carson, R. A. G., COINS OF THE WORLD, Plate 230A
 Clute, Stanley, personal correspondence
 Hendelson, William H, Editor, FUNK & WAGNALLS NEW ENCYCLOPEDIA

The Louisiana "LIGNA-DENARIUS" wood is available to interested lignadenarists a set consisting of two woods: 1 wood hand painted and varnished
 1 wood unvarnished.

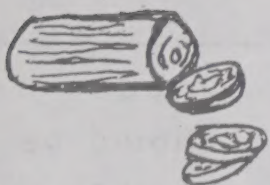
A limit of ONE SET per collector, please! Cost is 50¢ postpaid. And, as always, proceeds are donated to the A.N.A. and C.N.A. Young Numismatist funds. Orders for the set of woods are to be sent to: Leslie A. Winners, P. O. Box 212, Pineville, LA 71360, U. S. A.

A maximum of 200 sets will be produced and distributed on a first-come, first-served basis.

OBITUARY

We regret to announce the sudden passing of Member ED PARKER of Winnipeg on December 8. Ed, an avid member and supporter of the Canadian Association of Wooden Money Collectors, helped with the backgrounds of many of the Manitoba woods listed by Norm Wells in his definitive book on Canadian wooden money. We offer our wholehearted condolences to Mrs. Parker. Ed was 55 years of age.

EDITOR'S LOG



It was intended by your Editor to start 1980 by turning Timber Talk into a journal with this issue. However, after further reflection on the matter, I have decided to defer any such decision for a year, in order to get feedback from the membership. I hope to send out a questionnaire later in the year to determine such matters.

We are sorry to hear that member J. Douglas Ferguson recently suffered a bad fall at his Winter residence in Florida, just before Christmas, and is on the sick list as a result. Doug twisted the ligaments in his right shoulder and side. We understand that he is making good progress. Hurry up and get well, Doug. You're missed.

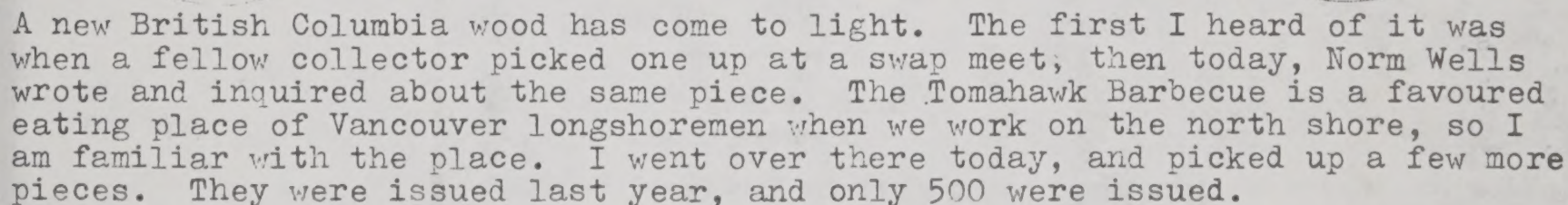
Finally, your Editor received a short note and request from Clarence Kramer, the King of Wooden Money.

"Any member of the C.A.W.M.C. who has issued Xmas wood (either past or present) and which I do not have, I sure would like to have it for my Canadian wood exhibit. Many thanks.

Clarence C. Kramer,
R. D. # 1,
Drums, PA 18222,
U. S. A."

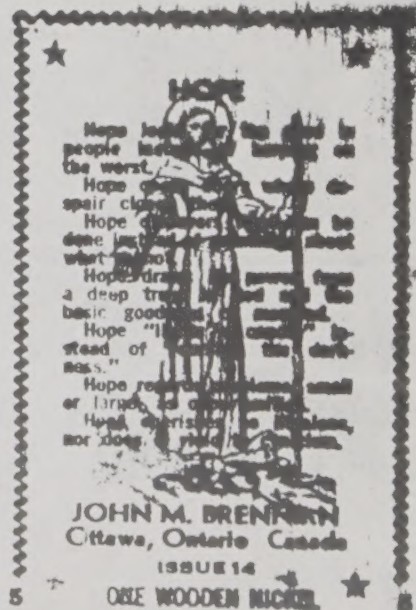


by Les Copan



The owner did agree to make them available to collectors as long as there are any left. There will be no cost for the token, but collectors must send a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Write: Charles Chamberlain, 1550 Phillip Avenue, North Vancouver, B.C. V7P 2V8

Avid lignadenarist John Brennan has issued nos. 13 & 14 in his series of flats. Both share a similar praying hands obverse. John can be contacted at 186 Pleasant Park, Ottawa, Ontario.





Christmas
Greetings
1979

Wishing you the joys
of Christmas
And many blessings in
the New Year
1980

Ted Oulds
Calgary, Alberta

Wishing you the joys
of Christmas
And many blessings in
the New Year
1980

Russell & Judith
Brown

Christmas issues of Ted Oulds and Russell and Judith Brown share a common obv. Ted Oulds' issue is available at no charge but SASE at P. O. Box 280, Sta. T, Calgary, Alta.. T2H 2G8

One Wood Nickel

One Wood Nickel

Merry
Christmas
1979

May Happiness, Health
and Good Collecting be yours
for the New Year - 1980

Norm & May Belsten
Downsview, Ontario

One Wood Nickel

One Wood Nickel

Christmas flat issued by Norm & May Belsten of Downsview, Ontario.

ONE WOODEN NICKEL

ONE WOODEN NICKEL

Merry
Christmas
1979

May Happiness, Health
and Good Collecting be yours
for the New Year - 1980

Mark Mogen
Calgary, Alberta

New flat issued by Mark Mogen of Calgary for Christmas. Some may be available to collectors later.

DUE TO LACK OF SPACE HEREIN, MORE CHRISTMAS
WOODS WILL APPEAR HERE NEXT MONTH.

THIS MONTH'S
WOOD



Our free issue of wood being included for members this month is a new issue, A & A Hobby Helpers, by member Alf Wrigley of Calgary. We wish to thank Alf for his generous donation.